

110TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 3545

To enhance after-school programs in rural areas of the United States by establishing a pilot program to help communities establish and improve rural after-school programs.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 23 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 17), 2008

Mrs. LINCOLN (for herself and Ms. COLLINS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

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## A BILL

To enhance after-school programs in rural areas of the United States by establishing a pilot program to help communities establish and improve rural after-school programs.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Investment in After-  
5 School Programs Act of 2008”.

1 **SEC. 2. AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS.**

2 Subtitle D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural De-  
3 velopment Act is amended by inserting after section 365  
4 (7 U.S.C. 2008) the following:

5 **“SEC. 366. AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS.**

6 “(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to en-  
7 hance after-school programs in rural areas by helping  
8 communities—

9 “(1) to establish after-school programs; and

10 “(2) to improve existing programs by over-  
11 coming barriers to service.

12 “(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

13 “(1) AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM.—The term  
14 ‘after-school program’ means a program that carries  
15 out a broad array of activities during periods when  
16 school is not in session (such as before school, after  
17 school, or during summer recess and other vacation  
18 periods) that advance student academic achievement  
19 and promote positive youth development.

20 “(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible en-  
21 tity’ means a local educational agency (as such term  
22 is defined in section 9101 of the Elementary and  
23 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
24 7801)), community-based organization, another pub-  
25 lic or private entity, or a consortium of 2 or more  
26 such agencies, organizations, or entities.

1           “(3) RURAL AREA.—The term ‘rural area’  
 2 means an area that is served by an elementary or  
 3 secondary school that is designated with a school lo-  
 4 cale code of Distant Town, Remote Town, Fringe  
 5 Rural, Distant Rural, or Remote Rural, as deter-  
 6 mined by the Secretary of Education.

7           “(c) GRANTS.—

8           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make  
 9 grants to eligible entities to improve, expand, or es-  
 10 tablish after-school programs in rural areas.

11           “(2) REQUIREMENT.—Each grant under this  
 12 section shall be in an amount of not less than  
 13 \$50,000.

14           “(d) DURATION.—

15           “(1) TERM OF GRANT.—The term of a grant  
 16 under this section may not be for less than 3 years.

17           “(2) RENEWAL.—The Secretary may renew a  
 18 grant under this section for a period of not less than  
 19 3 years, based on the performance of the eligible en-  
 20 tity during the previous grant term.

21           “(e) USES.—As a condition of the receipt of a grant  
 22 under this section, an eligible entity shall use the grant  
 23 to fund projects and activities described in subsection (c),  
 24 including transportation, professional development, train-

1 ing, recruitment and retention of staff, increasing access  
2 to technology, and planning.

3 “(f) EVALUATION.—The Secretary may use not more  
4 than 1 percent of the funds under this section—

5 “(1) to conduct evaluations of the effectiveness  
6 of programs and activities assisted under subsection  
7 (c); and

8 “(2) to disseminate the results of those evalua-  
9 tions for the purpose of refining, improving, and  
10 strengthening programs.

11 “(g) OUTREACH, TRAINING, AND TECHNICAL AS-  
12 SISTANCE.—The Secretary may use not more than 3 per-  
13 cent of the funds made available to carry out this sec-  
14 tion—

15 “(1) to conduct outreach, including bidders’  
16 conferences, to ensure widespread knowledge of the  
17 availability of resources described in subsection (c);

18 “(2) to disseminate information on best prac-  
19 tices and successful program models for serving chil-  
20 dren and youth in rural areas; and

21 “(3) to provide capacity building, training, and  
22 technical assistance to afterschool programs and  
23 providers in rural areas.

24 “(h) APPLICATION.—

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—To be considered for a  
2           grant under this section, each eligible entity shall  
3           submit to the Secretary an application at such time,  
4           in such manner, and accompanied by such informa-  
5           tion as the Secretary may require.

6           “(2) CONTENTS.—An application submitted  
7           pursuant to paragraph (1) shall include—

8                   “(A) a description of the after-school pro-  
9                   gram to be funded, including—

10                           “(i) an assurance that the program  
11                           will take place in a safe and easily acces-  
12                           sible facility;

13                           “(ii) a description of how children and  
14                           youth participating in the program will  
15                           travel safely between the program site and  
16                           home;

17                           “(iii) a description of how the eligible  
18                           entity will disseminate information about  
19                           the program, including the location of the  
20                           program, to the community in a manner  
21                           that is understandable and accessible; and

22                           “(iv) a description of the services to  
23                           be provided to children and youth, the  
24                           roles and responsibilities of the partners in  
25                           providing the services, and how the serv-

1           ices enhance an existing after-school pro-  
2           gram;

3           “(B) an assurance that the proposed pro-  
4           gram was developed, and will be carried out, in  
5           active collaboration with the schools the stu-  
6           dents attend;

7           “(C) an assurance that funds provided  
8           under this section will be used to increase the  
9           level of State, local, and other non-Federal  
10          funds that would, in the absence of funds under  
11          this section, be made available for programs  
12          and activities authorized under this section, and  
13          in no case supplant Federal, State, local, or  
14          non-Federal funds;

15          “(D) a description of the partnership be-  
16          tween a local educational agency, a community-  
17          based organization, or another public entity or  
18          private entity, if applicable; and

19          “(E) such additional assurances as the  
20          Secretary determines to be necessary to ensure  
21          compliance with this section.

22          “(i) PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall give priority to  
23          applications that propose partnerships between 2 or more  
24          eligible entities.

1       “(j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
2 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this sec-  
3 tion—

4               “(1) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2009;

5               “(2) \$75,000,000 for fiscal year 2010;

6               “(3) \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2011;

7               “(4) \$125,000,000 for fiscal year 2012; and

8               “(5) \$150,000,000 for fiscal year 2013.”.

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